



Agenda ***Sister Cities Commission***

March 26, 2015
Milpitas City Hall, Committee Conference Room
455 E. Calaveras Blvd.
6:00 PM

I. Roll Call

II. Seating of Alternates

III. Pledge of Allegiance

IV. Approval of Minutes: February 26, 2015

V. Approval of Agenda: March 26, 2015

VI. Announcements / Correspondence

Items directly related to the Sister Cities Commission (SCC) and City of Milpitas business.

VII. Public Forum

Members of the audience are invited to address the commission in any subject not on tonight's agenda. Speakers must supply their name and address for the record. Commissioners cannot respond to issues brought forward, but may request that the matter be added to the agenda of a future meeting.

VIII. New Business

1. By-Laws Change to Reserve Seat for a Milpitas Corporate Representative

There are special, designated seats on some City commissions for business and institutional representatives. The purpose is to obtain consistent participation and perspective of a professional representing a specific sector of Milpitas. The SCC can benefit from gaining insight into corporate giving models and potential sponsorships.

Recommendation: Review pros and cons of establishing a seat for a representative from a Milpitas corporation. Provide direction to establish a special seat for a Milpitas corporate representative on the SCC.

2. International Park Concept at Tom Evatt Park

Background: The City has received requests from international organizations, representing Philippines, India, Korea, and Vietnam organizations to have a public place to represent the culture of each respective country. Additional country representation is anticipated. Preliminary discussions have resulted in a concept of an “International Park” in Milpitas, and Tom Everett Park was identified as a possible location due to its central and accessible midtown location. The International Park concept is to provide a public space with an educational non-political theme of culture, arts, history, architecture, geography, native plants for each participating international group. The park could be divided into small delineated areas with the first to be located on the east side of Main Street. The concept could be expanded to the west side of main Street dependent on other organizations participation interest. If the concept moves forward, staff would develop policies, procedures and specifications for size of each area.

Recommendation: Although there are no preliminary design plans to review, Staff will discuss the concept with the Commission and requests taht the Commission review the concept and provide feedback.

IV. Old Business

3. Seongnam City, Request for Sister City Relationship

Background: The SCC reviewed correspondence from Seongnam City at its February meeting. Seongnam City requests consideration of its request for a sister city relationship with the City of Milpitas. The SCC discussed past issues and remaining questions it has for Seongnam representatives. Staff has invited local representatives to the March 26 meeting. As a reminder, Seongnam City Mayor Jae Myung Lee along with Seongnam City council members will visit Mayor Esteves on April 8, 2015 at 3PM.

Recommendation: Discuss letter of intent from Seongnam City and review past correspondence (included in the agenda packet).

4. Fundraising & Promotions Subcommittee

Background: At the January 22 meeting, the SCC formed a subcommittee to conduct research on how other cities support sister city efforts including specific areas of fundraising and promoting sister city relationships. Commissioners Arbaugh, Arefi and T. Chang volunteered to form this subcommittee.

Recommendation: Receive report from the subcommittee. Discuss next steps.

5. Research of Possible Sister City Relationship in Latin America

Background: At the January 22 meeting, Council Liaison Grilli noted the request from Councilwoman Montano to begin research into finding a sister city in Latin America.

Recommendation: Information item at this point. Determine where this research and reporting is to be placed within the framework of the Annual Work Plan.

6. Sister City Display of Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs)

Background: At the January 22 meeting, an inquiry was made regarding display of MOUs and art provided by sister cities. Commissioner Nolan will be the SCC's contact with staff on this project moving forward with updates reported, as available.

Recommendation: Receive staff report.

7. E-Pal Project with Sister Cities

Background: This project continues with renewed attention to linking students, corrected email addresses, and a review between staff and the Digital Business Academy teacher.

Recommendation: Receive staff report.

8. Tsukuba City, Japan

Background: Milpitas and Tsukuba signed an updated Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) effective October 7, 2014 for a five-year term, ending October 7, 2019. Vice Chair Arbaugh is the lead commissioner.

Recommendation: Receive updates and discuss possible student and/or adult visits and other exchanges as available.

9. Dagupan City, Philippines

Background: Milpitas and Dagupan signed an updated MOU in October 7, 2014 for a five-year term, ending October 7, 2019. A lead commissioner is needed for this sister city relationship.

Recommendation: Determine a lead commissioner. Receive updates and discuss possible student and/or adult visits and other exchanges as available.

10. Huizhou Municipality, China

Background: Milpitas and Huizhou signed an updated MOU on October 15, 2013 for a five-year term, ending October 15, 2018. Chair Grilli is the lead commissioner for this relationship.

Recommendation: Receive updates and discuss possible student and/or adult visits and other exchanges as available.

VI. Student Liaison Report

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VII. City Council Liaison Report

VIII. School District Liaison Report

IX. Future Agenda Items

- a. Sister City Relationships / Cultural Exchanges
 - i. Tsukuba, Japan
 - ii. Dagupan, Philippines
 - iii. Huizhou, China
- b. Sign Noting Sister Cities in City Plaza

X. Adjournment

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